

1346

THE
Bishop of *CLOYNE*
DEFENDED;
OR,
TAR-WATER
Proved USEFUL.

[Price Six-pence.]

THE
BISHOP OF CLOUDE
DEFENDED;

BY THE REV. DR. J. A. TAYLOR

PREPARED FOR PUBLICATION

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ANSWER TO THE BISHOP OF CLOUDE

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T.M.
THE *P. 1946*
BISHOP of CLOYNE

DEFENDED;

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OR,

TAR-WATER

PROVED USEFUL,

BY

THEORY and EXPERIMENTS,

In ANSWER to

T. R. M. D.

AUTHOR of *Epidemical Madness cured,*

By PHILANTHROPOS. *K*

*Was not the Water made sweet with Wood, that
the Virtue thereof might be known?*

Eccles. xxxviii. 5.

Eccè Vox Naturæ, Vox Dei,

L O N D O N:

Printed for J. RIVINGTON, at the Bible and
Crown, in St. Paul's Church-yard.

SIR,

THE same Motive which prevail'd with you to oppose my Lord of Cloyne, has engaged me to defend him; and surely when a disputed Catholicon has pass'd the Press (as you have shewn me the Way) every *Knight-Errant* may become its Advocate; but before I proceed to examine your Empirical Notions, I must beg Leave to take Notice of your low-spun Ironies. Every one that has the Honour to know, or even hear of the Character of his Lordship, must confess, that he is a good Philosopher, a good Divine, Englishman and Christian; and, as in writing *Siris*, so in many other Actions, he could have no other View than the Glory of his Master, and the Good of Mankind; and therefore, tho' he should be mistaken in a Physical Conjecture, we ought to admire the Intention, to improve on the Hints, and reduce it to its proper Standard.

Pray, Sir, from whence has that noble Science of Physick receiv'd its great Improvements? not wholly from the Observations of our Faculty, but also from Rusties and Gentlemen of different Professions, especially Naturalists. What is Natural Philosophy, but

a Knowledge of, and Contemplation on, the wonderful Works of God, ~~the whole created~~ Nature? Who does not observe the great Analogy of animate and inanimate Beings? Wherefore he that is most acquainted with those Things, bids fairest for a useful and rational Practitioner; and it would be happy for this Generation, if instead of Classical Learning (which confessedly has its Uses) Men would spend more of their Studies, in this delightful, as well as beneficial, Knowledge? 'Twould not only put a Stop to that Atheistical Spirit which so apparently reigns amongst us, but would make such Improvements in the Art of healing, that our future Generations would rise up and call us Blessed: But because a Divine steps * out of his immediate Province, wherunto he is called of God, as was Aaron, Heb. v. 4. Shall it be said, that "he has deserted his arduous Task [God knows, ~~in~~ an] arduous in this captious and perverse Generation] to which he pretends to be called by the immediate Influence of the holy Spirit, on the ridiculous, fanatical Pretence of doing Good." p. 5. 29. And again, p. 69. Because his Lordship studied the *Materia Medica*, therefore "he had departed from the

* But as a Divine ought to be acquainted with almost all Arts and Sciences (see Bishop Bull's Candidate for Holy Orders, printed for Rivington) especially Natural Philosophy, of which Medicine is only a Branch, from whence he may draw many useful Inferences for his Flock; so this may be making too great Concessions. " Faith;

“ Faith ; and as much Labour as he had bestow'd on our Business, so much he had defrauded a better, i.e. the preaching the Gospel. p. 7. Again, 'twas Time, when his Lordship had perfectly cured the Disorders of the Mind, (which, in a State of Probation, is impossible) to apply himself to the Cure of the Diseases of their Bodies.” What a ridiculous Fellow (to use your own Words) do you make yourself, by your absurd Applications? a Way of Reasoning, that, in its Consequences, would overturn all Order, Science, and Things. Because a Gentleman cannot perfectly accomplish his Wishes in one Thing, therefore he must not trouble his Head about any Thing.

I'm perswaded, his Lordship never intended People should be so mad about Tar-Water as they really are; his main Drift (if I apprehend him right) was to give Hints to the Learned, concerning the Nature of Tar, &c. His Manner of Reasoning, the Technical Terms he makes use of, demonstrate that he never intended the Pamphlet for the Commonalty, who will abuse the best of Things, tho' never so well guarded against; and perhaps (and I verily believe it) his Lordship's sanguine Disposition has carried his Point too far, and recommended his Gallicon in Cases where 'twould be prejudicial. However, that Terebinthinate Medicines, variously administer'd, are almost of universal Service, the united Testimony of our modern Prescriptions demonstrate; and therefore, instead of scurrilous and invective Reproaches against His Lordship, you should have reason'd

with the Enthusiastick World on this momentous Affair, and shewn wherem & might, and I might not, be beneficially taken; then you would have justly merited from my Lord, and the World, their united Thanks. But I perceive the chief Reason of your Uneasiness, you was in hopes, in time, of coming into some Repute; but should some Universal Medicine be found out, 'twould supersede the Necessity of Phyicians, and consequently frustrate all your Expectations; for at present you acknowledge you have very little Business, s. e. (p. 3.) "Should be very little affected with such a strange Revolution," for in such a Case your Humility would be contented with some petty Colony Cure.

And here 'tis natural, as I have condemn'd Dr. T. R's Proceedings, for my Reader to expect Tar-Water set in a true Light, but previous to it, I ought to take Notice of his Manner of Reasoning. But really, setting aside the Cook and Brewer, p. 41. I can't find the Appearance of an Argument, unless captious Queries and merry Jargon can be deem'd such. This sure a great Unhappiness to my Brother Doctor, before he had pretended to write an Answer to his Lordship, that he had not been longer from School; he might possibly then have been better acquainted with the Nature of Turpentine, and its Utility in Diseases; and as 'tis impossible to know where he begins, or where he ends, the only Answer due to him

is that of the wise Manu Prop. xxvi. 5. which I recommend to his serious Perusal. However, for the Sake of my Readers, we will examine some of his Allegations. The first Observation I shall make is, " his falling " out with the whole Theory of Physick or " Philosophical Reasoning ; " thereby confronting not only his Lordship, but the great Bellini, the memorable Piccinni, the immortal Freind, and in fine, the whole Faculty of modern Physicians. But pray, Sir, if the Theory of Medicine " be deem'd vain babbling " p. 1. wherein consists the Difference of an upstart Quack, educated under Rock, and a rational Practitioner ? the one will tell you of the many Wonders wrought by his Nostrums, and possibly (follow Hauksbee) challenge the World with his *Experimentum Crucis*. And what can a Physician do more, if he is confined to bare Experience ? But happy is it for his Majesty's Subjects, that the rational Practitioner proceeds on a more certain Basis, consults the Nature of Medicine, its constituent Principles, and how it will operate on the Constitution, the Nature of the Patient he is to relieve, his Manner of Living, how the Disease was contracted, its Duration, the Season, the Climate, the Effects of Nature to cast off her Burthen ; in short, pries into Causes and Effects, until he is able to form a rational *Hypothesis*, how to perfect his Intentions. But, *Argumentum ad Hominem*, suppose our bare *Experimentor* was to travel into remote

Parts,

Parts, and find a Patient afflicted with a Disease which he had never before seen, or even heard of, (which is often the Case) what Method must he take? he might turn over *Salmon* and *Culpepper*, and find a thousand Remedies for innumerable Diseases, that never could happen, whose Existence were purely in the *Brain*; he can find no Footsteps of the Disease either in ancient or modern Authors. What must he do? must human Nature perish because the *Experimenter* never saw the like before? The thing speaks itself; if he has a tolerable Notion of Nature and the Theory of Medicine, his last and only Refuge is *vain babbling*, p. 11. as our good Doctor terms it. "I cannot therefore (to use his own Words, p. 12.) help pitying my Brother's ill-timed Project," who has just begun to play the Quack at a Time, when Theory is in such great Repute, and Medicine, by its Help, brought to such great Perfection.

The second Observation I shall make, is your Sophistical Query, p. 23, of the exact Number of Pleuretic Patients his Lordship had cured with *Tar-Water*, and the Quantity they drank: Now what is all this to the Purpose of the Use, and Abuse, of *Turpentine* in such Cases. My Lord was only to give Hints to the Learned World, what great Cures in some Constitutions, and some Climates, might be perfected in the Use of *Tar-Water*; and that the Medicine, tho' variously prepared, is not a bad one, the frequent Prescriptions

scriptions of *Bals. Copain*, Draughts, *e. V. v. v. v.*, &c. of our ablest Physicians, sufficiently proved and then to shew you understand a little *Greek*, to quarrel with his Lordship about the Situation and Degree of the Inflammation; for p. 24.
 " Every Pain in the Side is not a Pleurisy" and Who knows not, but that the Pleurisy, strictly speaking, must be situated in a particular Part? but if the Blood be *equally inflamed*, *the Tension equally great*, *the same Method* constantly used in the Cure; what does it signify to the World, whether the Disease is situated in the *Pleura*, *Intercostal*, or any other adjacent Muscles? Nevertheless his Lordship has distinguished by saying, " that in " Pleurisies and Peripneumonies, he had ob- " served it to be an excellent Medicine, " having known some Pleuretic Persons cured, " without Bleeding, by a Blister early ap- " plied to the Sides, and the copious Drink " ing of *Tar-Water*." Here his Lordship conforms to a proverbial Way of speaking and writing, of mentioning both, and then apart for the whole; being very sensible, that the Bastard and Legitimate Pleurisy and *Peripneumonia* generally proceed from the same Cause, *a stagnated Blood*; and are to be remedied the same Way by Evacuation, Attenuation, or Expectoration, and sometimes all together; and therefore, if *Tar-Water* was found to produce such Effects on the Constitution, it must be allowed to be a good Medicine, but more of this, when we come to consider the Properties of *Tar-Water*.

And

And now I should pass over this Point,
 did not the good Doctor insist so much on his
 Morality. Morality, (according to the com-
 mon Acceptation of the Word) is to do the
 most good, in the best Manner we can; and
 consequently, if a more innocent, expeditious
 and useful Method of curing Diseases, can be
 procured, than we know of, it would be our
 Duty to follow it, and Man's lasting Praise to
 have been the Inventor; but how the Me-
 dicine in Dispute would be hurtful in such a
 Case, as stated by the Bishop, remains for the
 Doctor to prove; and again p. 27, " the
 Doctor is firmly persuaded, if the Recom-
 mendation of Tar-Water should generally
 prevail, it would cost his Majesty more
 Lives than any Action in the present Cam-
 paign," *Ipse dixit*. But suppose the Bishop
 had recommended Tar-Water universally, where
 does it appear it would have this fatal Ef-
 fect? not in your Writings, by any Argument
 drawn from the Nature of the Medicine, and
 the Nature of the Disease: We must either
 reason from these two-Principles, or from
 Matter of Fact, or we do nothing; but, I
 say again, his Lordship has not so generally
 prescribed it, but only to some Persons; and
 that it may be a good Medicine in some Coun-
 tries, and to some Constitutions, we shall prove
 by and by.

In p. 35, you object to his Lordship's Pro-
 position, that Distempers arising from diffe-
 rent and seeming contrary Causes may be cured
 " by

“ by the same Medicine”, and on this one Point spend thirteen or fourteen Pages, purely to let us know you understand the Difference between Rarefaction and Condensation, and all this while prove nothing at all; for his Lordship’s Proposition remains uncontradicted, and confirmed by the united Testimony of Matter of Fact, and the Sentiments of Mankind, that different Causes will produce different Effects in certain given Circumstances is granted; but does it from thence necessarily follow, that different Causes will not produce the same Effect in different Constitutions, *et vice versa*, the same Cause produce different Effects in different Constitutions, which is what my Lord maintains; and consequently, if Tar-Water is compounded of such Principles, as will naturally remove such or such Obstructions, (no Matter whether by Relaxation or Contraction, Dissolvent or Deobstruent) then it may may be with Truth affirm’d, that the Virtue of Tar-Water extends to a surprising Variety of Cases very distant and unlike; and p. 49. you quarrel with his Lordship for the Abuse of Technical Terms. Now, in order to consider this your Cardinal Point, we must state what Health is. Health, then, I understand to be such an Univerial Harmony of Nature, where every Organ in the Body performs its respective Office; and therefore, when any Muscle, or Fibre of the Body, is too much relaxed or contracted, it decreases or encreases the Velocity, and proper Motion of the Blood; and consequently produces some Irregularity in the

the Secretions, more or less prejudicial to the Constitution, which is, what we call (I think) a Disease. Sometimes the Irregularity affects the Heart, and sometimes other remote or less useful Members.— Often Nature, by her innate Strength (if I may be allow'd the Expression) recovers her pristine State, and often requires the Help of Medicine: Now, if the Situation of the Disease be in the Heart, Physicians term the prescribed Medicine intended to remove the Disorder, *Cardiacs*, from *καρδία*, the Heart; if in the Loins, *Diuretics*, from *διαρρέω*, to flow through; and when we apprehend it to be in the Kidneys, we call it, *Nephritics*, from *νεφρός*: But all these, and many more, especially the two latter, are arbitrary Expressions, and denote very little, unless it is to convey to our Ideas the Situation of the Disease; for after all, we must reduce our Ideas to the *strictum et laxum* of the Ancients: You will answer possibly, that *by this simple Method our Craft is in Danger*. No Sir, by no Means; for as there are different Classes of Medicines, some more stimulating, and some less; some more relaxing, others less; it will eternally require a proper and competent Judge, arm'd with Reason, and confirm'd by Experience, to administer a proper Medicine, a proper Quantity, at a proper Time, according as the too great Tension, or Relaxation of the Fibres and Muscles in human Nature shall require; and on this Regulation, I humbly apprehend, depends the whole *Materia Medica* and Practice of

of Physick ; * and therefore, if *Tar-Water*, or a *Terebinthinate* Medicine, can be proved to contain such component Principles, as will produce such various Effects in various Constitutions, then it may with great Propriety of Speech be call'd a Cardiac, Stomachic, Diuretic, Nephritic, Antihysteric, Diaphoretic, and Deobstruent, &c. But before I leave this Head I cannot pass by my Brother's Mirth in Page 52. " I ought to acquaint your Lordship, I have found your Universal Medicine to have an Effect on most People, which we Doctors haye not a Technical Term for, I mean that of making them sick." —Insinuating thereby his Insufficiency to invent Words, as well as administer Physic.—Now, in order to find out this puzzling Task, I would advise my Brother Doctor to take five or six Dozen of Emetics, which he is sensible we prescribe to our Patients, not only to carry off any peccant, turbulent Matter that is lodged in the Stomach, but also to invigorate and recover the relax'd Tone of the Fibres of the Stomach ; and by that Time,

* I am very sensible, that this Hypothesis is liable to Objections ; but as it conveys the clearest Ideas, and liable to the fewest Exceptions of any *Date's* hitherto advanced ; and as it is an Universal Maxim, where Certainty cannot be attained, Probability is to be follow'd. No Man (I think) can rationally object to it ; but perhaps an absolute, adequate Knowledge of the exact Operation of Medicine on the Constitution, is reserved for Part of that Happiness, when this Mortality shall have put on Immortality, and where we shall know God, Men, and Things, even as we are known.

especially if you take a few other Medicines, which very often makes People sick, and yet constantly call'd Stomachics, I do not doubt, but he will have found out this great and mighty Secret, *of coining a Technical Term for Sickness.*

I think I have, Brother Doctor, read your Pamphlet carefully, and answer'd it categorically; and having thus taken Leave of Dr. T. R's Jargon, I will endeavour to be serious, and proceed to take a Survey of the Properties of Tar and Turpentine, and shew their Usefulness in the *Materia Medica*; in doing which, I shall follow the Bishop in his *Siris*, as I did the Doctor in his Epidemical Madness.

Now in order to have a clear Idea of Turpentine's Tendency to remove particular Diseases, we must concisely consider from whence it comes, what it is, how made, and its constituent Principles; and then it will naturally follow, under what Circumstances, and in what Diseases, it may prove a salutary Drug. Turpentine then, is universally confessed to be an oleous, resinous Juice, accumulated in the various Fibres of Pine, or Fir Trees*, and imported to us from Norway, and chiefly of late from New-England; tho' certainly, the

* He that wants to see more of its Production may consult Pliny, Ray, Bacon, Boerhaave, and other Naturalists.

more

more mountainous the Country it is accumulated in, the finer the aerial Principles of which it consists, and consequently the better adapted to pass the Lacteals, and other fine Secretory Ducts in the human Body, and thereby more intimately mix with its Blood and Juices; and from this one Tree, either Pine or Fir, *Turpentine* is collected (naturally and artificially) the following Ways: The first and purest oozes and protrudes itself thro' the Pores of the Tree: * The second is collected by making an Incision towards the bottom of the Fir (or any other Ever-green) and as the Blood or Juice is circulating thro' the Lacteals or Tubes, it issues thro' it into a Well or Bason. † The third, and what we call Tar, is extracted from the Knots, &c. of old Trees, throw'd into a Heap, and set on Fire (being cover'd over with Turf, to keep them from blazing) and as the Wood consumes, the Tar is let free from its Prison, and conveyed thro' a Channel into a Reservoir form'd in the Ground, at a convenient Distance from the Fire; and by setting Fire, S. A. to this Mass,

* And this being strained by the Help of the Sun, is not at all inferior to the *Bal. Gilead*, either in Colour, Flavour, or Virtue, and very often sold for it; and I have seen good Judges not capable of distinguishing: But except People are on the Spot, 'tis extreme difficult to be procured genuine.

† This Balsam is laded out of the Bason into a Jar, &c. for Exportation; or by putting it into a Still, they may draw Oil, or Spirit of Turpentine, and the *Residuum* or *Caput Mortuum*, is called Rosin, either yellow or black, according to the Intention of the Operator.

Juice

Juice, or Extract, the aqueous or thin Particles are exhaled to a proper Consistence, and then 'tis call'd Pitch. So that from one Tree, differently managed, flows Drugs destin'd for various Uses, as well in the Oeconomical as the Medical World, and by diversely modifying and preparing, it becomes no despicable Part of the *Materia Medica*.

As to the Oeconomical, it is foreign to our present Purpose; but how it comes to be so useful in the Medical, will appear, when we have consider'd its constituent Principles, and this we shall establish, not only from our Senses, but also chymical Experiments; by its pungent Smell, it is plain it contains a Volatile; and by its Sharpness, as plain an acid, nitrous Salt; and by its primarily Taste on the Tongue, sheathing its volatile and nitrous Salts, it manifestly appears to consist of an oleous, fatty Substance; and by holding it a considerable Time on the Tongue, when the volatile Salts and oleous Substance, are evaporated away by the genial Warmth of the Body, it remains a hard, gummy, resinous Substance, and therefore, it is self-evident from our Senses, which cannot deceive us, that *Turpentine* is a compound of volatile, acid, nitrous Salts blended, and intimately commixt with an oleous and resinous Substance, accumulated by the Fir's attractive Powers from the various heterogenial Principles in the Air: But to corroborate our Argument, let us consider the Properties of *Turpentine*, as it appears

pears by a chymical Analysis, which for the Sake of Authority, we shall quote from the great *Boerhaave*.*

“ Let us now examine Oil of Turpentine. “ Put Turpentine warm’d by warm Water “ into a Pipkin till it runs ; pour this into a “ Retort well warm’d, with a wide Neck, “ so that one Third be empty, taking Care it “ stick not to the Neck ; put this Glass Retort “ upon a Sand Heat and Lute. 2. Make “ a Fire that will heat it to 100 Degrees, and “ distill till nothing more comes ; this Liquor “ is gratefully acid and will effervesce with “ Chalk, and is very penetrating. This “ first Liquor is call’d the Ætherial Oil of “ Turpentine. 3. Encrease your Fire to 212 “ Degrees of Heat, and you will have a Spi- “ rit much like the former. 4. Change your “ Recipient, encrease your Fire, you will “ then get more acid Water and an Oil, and “ what remains at the bottom of the Retort “ when cold is a hard Substance. 5. By “ augmenting the Fire we get a thick red “ Oil, little remaining in the bottom of the “ Retort. 6. Great Caution is to be used in “ this Distillation, lest the Glass crack and “ the Flames burst out. 7. This acid Wa-

* I have quoted the Abridgment (Page 43, printed by *Wilford*) for Conciseness ; but my English Reader may consult *Shaw's* Translation, printed by *Long-
man*, Page 91, and he will find them both exactly correspond.

“ ter, AÆtherial Oil, or Spirit of Turpentine,
 “ is distill’d otherwise: They put Turpentine
 “ into Rain Water, and distill from an Alem-
 “ beck; you get the acid Water or Spirit,
 “ and the Oil and Colophony remain in the
 “ Still in the Water. Turpentine, therefore,
 “ is a compound Body (says Boerhaave; the
 “ Uses he draws from it exactly corresponds
 “ with our immortal Berkley).

“ 1st. We see in Plants there is this acid
 “ Water, this Oil and this Balsam, which last
 “ may be made thin with the Yolk of an
 “ Egg; nor do these Balsams differ so much
 “ in Virtue as in Price, for they all may be
 “ resolv’d into the same Principles: Thus Opo-
 “ balsam, Copaiæ, Peru, Tolu, &c. answer the
 “ same Ends (and all the same Way).

“ 2dly. In all these there is an acid Water
 “ or Spirit.

“ 3dly. The light Oils are very penetrating,
 “ and are anodyne and consolidating in Nerves
 “ and Tendons; this Oil preserves from Pu-
 “ trefaction, but 'tis apt to grow thick; it
 “ discourses and mollifies, and is anodyne; in-
 “ ternally it gives a genial Warmth, pro-
 “ motes Secretions of Sweat and Urine, gives
 “ it a violet Smell; if you rub the Spine with
 “ it in Quartans 'tis often a Remedy.

“ 4thly. The thicker Oils are more an-
 “ dyne and consolidating; the Colophony or
 “ Rosin

“ Rosin is good in Bones that are bare, or in
“ Tendons and Muscles that are hurt by burn-
“ ing; it stops a sharp Flux of Humours that
“ flows from the Joints, and is styptic.

“ 5tly. This Colophony with 280 De-
“ grees of Heat will turn into Acid and red
“ Oil, and there remains a very hard Colo-
“ phony at the bottom; however, by a Heat
“ that will almost melt Glass, this Colophony
“ is melted into Oil: We see therefore (says
“ our Author) the Force of Fire; by one
“ Degree of Heat they evaporate to a thick
“ Consistence, and by a greater into a
“ thin Substance.”

I have been, for the Sake of the Reader, the more particular in this Quotation, because it not only demonstrates the component Principles of Turpentine, but also that the same thing (in different Degrees and Qualities) will have different Effects on other Bodies, as well as the Constitutions of Men, *et vice versa*; and the Degree and Qualities always must be ascertained *in ratio* to the Object they are to operate upon, which, notwithstanding Dr. T. R's captious Objections, is the very Plan my Lord went upon.

However, tho' I stand up for his Lordship's Plan, yet I must confess I think he has carried his Medicine too far, and recommended it in some Cases, where (to speak modestly) much more efficacious Remedies are constantly prescribed

scribed; but still we must make great Allowances for the Patients my Lord prescribed to, viz. upon poor People in *Ireland*, whose general Diet are Potatoes and other vegetable Food, who perhaps live in Fenny and Woody Countries, and whose Constitutions are in some measure emaciated (as they are in *Kent*, and some other Counties of *England*) by a perpetual Revolution of vernal and autumnal Agues, intermitting and other cronic Disorders.

Wherefore I think we are bound, not only for the Good of Mankind, and from the immutable Reason of Things, but from our Short-sightedness in former Times, * to give every Medicine and communicated Nostrum a fair Enquiry and candid Examination. I shall therefore now enquire in what Cases *Turpentine-Water* may, and may not, prove a safe and beneficial Medicine.

And the first I shall take Notice of, is the *Pleurify* and *Peripneumonia*, P. 37. which we

* Dr. Groenewelt, who in the time of King James was put into Newgate, and perfectly ruin'd by the College of Physicians, for Male Practice, in recommending the internal Use of *Cantharides*, and notwithstanding this cruel Usage, the Book which he wrote (*de tuto Cantharidum uso interno*) has ever since been admired by that learned and worthy Body, and proves a beneficial Medicine in safe and skilful Hands, and many great Cures have been perfected by it. Also, the *Corset*, at first, met with a great many Opponents; but by the Vigilance and impartial Examination of the honest Sydenham, was found a useful and safe Drug; has since received great Improvements, and is now a very important Medicine in the Practice of Phyfick.

will

will consider as the same Disease; and if it should affect a Person whose Constitution is decay'd by great Age or Sickness, &c. no question but Turpentine-Water[†] may be a useful Remedy; for Turpentine-Water being an acid Soap, [‡] will by its pungent Salt gently stimulate the various affected Organs, and by its unctuous, balsamic Quality, sheath and mollify the stimulated Fibre, thereby preventing an encreasing Inflammation; and thus, by keeping Nature in a proper Medium, she

[†] I call it Turpentine-Water, because I apprehend, that which flows naturally from the Tree, as before described, contains all those volatile, nitrous, acid, unctuous, and balsamic Principles that are in Tar; and as Tar is made by the Help of Fire (tho' gradual) no Question but some of those fine, volatile, nitrous Principles are exhaled, and Igneous ones united in the Preparation; and therefore I would recommend that instead of Tar, the Water might be infused on Turpentine, which would necessarily answer the same Expectations as you could expect from Tar; and also from Turpentine-Water we have a most agreeable Flavour, and free of that sulphurous Taste and Smell which is so remarkably predominant in Tar; and therefore make it as follows:

Pour a Gallon of cold Spring Water on a Quart of the purest and finest flavour'd Turpentine; stir and mix it for the Space of three Minutes, and let it stand about thirty Hours (more or less, according to the Strength of the Patient that is to take it): and then it may be sold to the Farriers and Farmers for common Uses.

[‡] I call it an acid Soap, with the Bishop, because Soap is made from a strong Decoction of Ashes and oleous Substance; and therefore as Turpentine has been proved to contain a volatile, nitrous Salt, and fat, oleous Substance, by Experiments natural and chymical, it must naturally have the same Effect in given Circumstances.

is enabled to remove and relieve the obstructed Gland or Muscle : For what would a Physician do in this Case ? not bleed largely ; but rather apply an Epispastic to the Part affected, and at the same time give unctuous, expectorating, pacific Medicines, to prevent the stimulating Effects of the Epispastic from contracting Nature beyond her Poize : And therefore, as Terebinthinate-Water operates on the same Principles, and by the same Method, 'tis confirm'd by universal Practice to be a safe Medicine.

But again, should this same Method be taken with a Person at the prime of Life, when his Blood is in a perfect Ferment by its encreased Velocity ; his whole Nature (if I may be allow'd the Expression) in a perpetual Stimulus, by high Living, and other internal and external Accidents, and the Inflammation already seated on one of the principle Organs of Life ; in this Case, 'tis surely, his Lordship's Regimen must prove fatal, all that we can do by larger and repeated Phlebotomies, and mollifying, diluent and relaxing Medicines, prove often too ineffectual to recover our Patients, whereas it stands consistent with Reason, that the least imaginable Stimulus in Nature, in this Case, must be detrimental, and often by Unskillfulness, Apothecaries, &c. &c. soon end the Catastrophe.

We

Now, in order to reconcile these seeming Paradoxes, we must consider from what Cause they respectively spring and arise; and here we must refer to our former Proposition, that different Causes in certain given Circumstances will produce the same Effect, and the same Cause in given Circumstances produce different Effects, and, as was said before, will be ascertain'd *in ratio* to the Object they act upon; and therefore, whether this Cold or Heat, or Costiveness, proceeded from a Redundancy or Insanity, it may have produced different Effects on the different Constitutions. *et quic Versus* Wherefore, whatever the original Cause may be, there is at present a partial Inotorial Defect in the Motion of one of the Organs of Life; and the Effect of that will be, in some a Heat, in others Cold; in some Costiveness, *contra*: But if we can administer a Medicine that will give a Vibration to the particular affected Organs, to restore the relax'd, and at the time so sheath'd and blended by a balsamic Quality, as to abate the too

too

too great Tension; then such Gases as stated by my Lord, may be relieved: But a Turpentine-Water, as has been prov'd, contains those respective Principles as will both contract where it acts by a *Stimulus*, and relax where it acts by its balsamic Quality, in given Circumstances, and therefore may remove such Irregularities. But should we endeavour to reduce this Maxim to universal Practice, I am persuaded we should find our Expectations (or rather our poor Patients) frustrated.

The next Remark I shall make is on the Scurvy, (p. 46.) which I shall not divide in two Sorts, hot and cold, as some Authors have done, but consider it as the same individual Disease, it diversifying its Symptoms according to the Patient it affects.

As for Example: If a Person of a Choleric Constitution is afflicted with it, the Medicine under Consideration seems to bid fair for the Cure, both from the Nature of the Disease and the Property of the Medicine; for as an Obstruction in the Cuticle, attended with a saline, watery Humor, are inseparable Concomitants, it evidently follows, that a Drug compounded of such Principles as a Turpentine-Water, will, by its gentle, stimulating Qualities, give a genial Warmth to the various Organs of the Body, promote Perspiration, and the other Secretions, by the different Emunctories; and at the same time, by its oleous, balsamic

famic Qualities, correct and blunt the saline Humour ; which are the only Effects that are wanted in this Disease from the whole *Materia Medica*.

The Scurvy, that is indeed attended with violent, inflammatory Tumours, and large Phlegmons, I am convinced, that more proper Remedies are to be used ; however, that a long Continuance of Turpentine Water would not affect it, I am not certain ; but I think, as we have more expeditious ones, and they very safe, they ought to be used, and not trust to Uncertainties ; but where People have not better Helps, it may not be amiss to try it.

And as to the Gout, till a more proper Specific can be found out, I think that before us may be used : Sure I am, no ill Consequences can attend it, but from the Nature of the Disease, and the Properties of the Medicine, which by a regular Physician are always to be consider'd, it promises fair for Help ; for by taking small Quantities of it at a Time, it gently, by its stimulating Property, recovers and preserves a proper Elastic Tone to the Coats of the Stomach, and by that Means helps the digestive Organs, invigorates and raises the Spirits, and promotes a Diaphoresis, and other Secretions ; and consequently must prove beneficial to this *Opprobrium Medicorum*. I have found by many Years Experience a *Mass e Arg. Vrv. e Tereb.*

Exter.

Exten. Gum Guajac, and a proper Quantity of Opium, alter'd as Exigencies require, do great Feats in this Disease, and may be taken during the tedious Stage; and in its Absence to prevent its Return: Now, whether *Turpentine*, or *Tar-Water*, does not operate the same Way, and will answer the same Ends, it is worth the while of the learned Faculty to consider.

The next Remark I shall make is about the Small-Pox, and here I cannot but dissent from his Lordship, because the Disease being an inflammatory one, and that of the highest Degree, considering its Duration, every Medicine that is administer'd ought to be of the most cooling Clas, and diluent Kind. For by this Method, notwithstanding the Disease in former Times, when People universally administer'd a warm Regimen, it proved so fatal, that one out of three commonly died; yet now, if we are apply'd to soon enough, and the Patient (or rather Nurse) follow our Advice, hardly one in a thousand miscarry: But still the Practice of drinking *Tar-Water* may not prove so detrimental to fenny Countries, poor People, and all those whose Blood and Juices are quite in a different Condition from what they are in populous Cities and Towns; and therefore to reconcile his Lordship's Scheme to Reason and Experience, we must consider, to whom he found it serviceable: and tho' we confess, that there are gentle, stimulating Principles in *Tar-Water*, yet, it being blended and sheath'd with an oleous

oleous, balsamic Quality, and diluted with a large Quantity of Water (the best Diluent in Nature) it may prove a very beneficial Regimen. I think I have consider'd the main Points of his Lordship's *Siris*, as far, at least, as it concerns Medicine, and must declare, tho' I have read it over four or five Times, yet still I find some new Beauties, and were I to write proper Remarks on the whole, the Elegancy of the Stile, and the Copiousness of the Language, I must fill up Volumes. I shall therefore give one general Hint, that wherever such Medicines (compounded of such Principles as are manifestly contained in Turpentine Water) are wanted, let it only be given at proper Times, and in a due Quantity, it will certainly prove a safe, if not a beneficial Remedy.

I have known several Instances of this controveried Medicine doing a great deal of Hurt, but it was always either in taking too great a Quantity, or too strong in Quality, or in very inflammatory Diseases; and in all such Cases it is not the Medicine, but People are to blame; and, as I have known it do Hurt, so I have much Good in such Cases as I have been contending for in the preceeding Lines. And here I should proceed to give you some Cases relating to the Medicine, but it would fwell the Pamphlet beyond its intended Size; and as there are many Cases in every Town of England of

good and bad Effects, it is needless to relate them.

Now, Doctor, before I conclude, as Truth is the only Principle I seek, I protest that I am not at all anxious about the Event of my Arguments, it being the distinguishing Character of a rational Creature to avoid Error where and whene'er he finds it, and to embrace Truth, tho' cloath'd with Rags. Believe me therefore to be, tho' unknown, in all the Offices of Humanity,

Your bumble Servant to Command,

W. M. M.

I have known several Instances of this sort.
A **PHYSICIAN** in **HORN**.